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The imminent reorganization of the Labour Ministry's Housing Division follows on recommendations to the Government that effect and the State Municipalities. Controller in his Annual Report for 1958-59. It is not yet clear whether the Government proposes to set up the Housing Authority proposed by the Controller and to include on its Council "representatives of the main factors concerned with building and housing and with general planning in Israel." So far there is talk only of a Housing Administration directly subordinated to the Ministry of Labour alone.

There have been undoubtedly advantages in the concentration of authority that has been enjoyed by the Housing Division over the last decade. Its officials broke the back of what was a redoubtable housing problem, and they have provided homes for half the present population. During this period, however, there has been increasing opposition among the local authorities to the overarching powers of the Labour Ministry to build where it pleased.

Overall town-planning decisions are now the province of the Ministry of the Interior. But after they moved out the large residential sites, commercial centres and industrial zones they are parcellated and built up at the discretion of the Housing Division, which is not obliged under the existing law to submit its plans for the approval of the local or district authorities.

All building projects need the sanction of these bodies, under the Mandatory Town Planning Ordinance—except constructions put up by the Government. It is no secret that the Housing Division from time to time even ignored some of the rules (as regards spacing, etc.) laid down by the Ministry of the Interior. This was overlooked because of the urgent need to use limited resources as economically as possible in order to put a roof over the heads of the tens of thousands of immigrant families occupying tents and huts.

Now that the emergency phase in the housing problem has been largely overcome, it is reasonable to take a second look at the building and planning methods used. The complete centralization of the building programme has left its mark in the excessive standardization of building styles and lay-out. Almost identical blocks of flats dot Sderot in the south and Kiryat Shmone in Upper Galilee. Tiberias has the same popular housing as Jerusalem. Much of the new Israel has come to look like a single dormitory suburb. The character of some attractive residential areas like Beit Hakerem in Jerusalem has been irretrievably damaged by the erection of stereotyped four-storey blocks, some hardly better than slum dwellings.

A Bill prepared some time ago by the Ministry of the Interior proposes to submit Government housing to the same restrictions as those imposed on private construction. The Labour Ministry does not conceal its determination to continue its own way without having to submit its major projects to the sanction of a multitude of local town-planning commissions. Up to a point their attitude is justified.

The national plan for distributing the country's population and resources over the map, taking account of long-term demographic, economic and security considerations, cannot be subjected to the veto of each municipal council.

The local authorities may therefore not determine how much their residential areas should be expanded. They do have the right to stay in what ways that expansion and what amenities, green spaces and views, shall be protected. The Labour Ministry seems prepared to defer to the old-established municipalities but it claims autonomy in all areas billed for development. Yet even two words are better than one. If this means that the housing programme will cost slightly more, the country can afford to pay that price in order to achieve more diversity, better harmony within each town and village, and a wider variety of styles and layout. A partial decentralization of the planning of Israel's housing would give the nation's architects a better opportunity to show their worth than they enjoyed under the iron control of the Housing Division.



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THE JERUSALEM POST

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1961 • 20 Shvat, 5721 • 20 Sha'ban, 1380

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Riots in Teheran As Government Shuts University

TEHERAN — Police wielded tear gas and truncheons and fired shots into the air yesterday to break up riots by university and high school students demanding "election freedom."

Students poured through downtown Teheran calling for the resignation of Premier Sharif Emami. Police said several students were hit by police and injured.

The riots followed the Government's closing of Teheran University and some students masquerading as students planned to foment trouble and even created untoward and sorrowful incidents.

Students at Tabriz University, in Azerbaijan bordering Soviet Union, struck yesterday in sympathy with the teheran students.

Opposition Chief

Dr. Mohammad Baghaai, opposition political leader and election candidate who has been conducting anti-Government meetings and election rallies, was arrested by security police yesterday.

He was also arrested during his campaign in the last elections in August, which were annulled.

The counting of votes in the Tehran elections for 15 Deputies began early yesterday morning and was to have been completed last night.

Provincial returns showed the ruling Meljoun (Nationalist) Party continued to hold its slim lead over Mardom (People's party), with Meljoun having 58 seats, Mardom 52 and independents 20.

(UPI, Reuter)

Guantanamo Water Line Held by Castro

HAVANA (UPI) — Breaking with the new Kennedy administration, Dr. Fidel Castro's Government yesterday seized the water company supplying the U.S. Guantanamo naval base and accused Cuban revolutionaries of plotting a counter-revolution with the American President.

The Government "intervened" the Caimanera Aqueduct Company, which is the main source of fresh water to bone-dry Guantanamo, but no attempt has yet been made to close the pipes.

The U.S. Navy has said it would take any such move to force it from Guantanamo by bringing in water by tanker.

Dead in Angola Clash Up to 16

LISBON — At least 16 persons were killed in Saturday's riots at Luanda, Angola, in which the local official radio station, civil and military prisons and a police barracks were attacked, it was reported here yesterday.

—Europe's policemen and an Army corporal were among the dead, press reports said. Three policemen were seriously injured and a number of others less badly hurt. At least nine of the attackers were killed and some others injured.

Police Headquarters in Luanda, and 11 persons, including three who were killed when police machine-gunned a brawling crowd on the outskirts of Luanda. About 20 were injured, it was added.

An undisclosed number of persons have been detained and police patrols in Luanda have been strengthened.

Many of those detained after the riots are reported to speak only French, and Government supporters here said this fitted into the international pattern of the attacks on the Portuguese Government which began with the seizure of the liner Santa Maria.

(Reuter, AP)

Maria Passengers Continue Trip

RECIFE, Brazil (Reuter) — Passengers from the Portuguese liner Santa Maria yesterday boarded another ship the Vera Cruz to sail for Europe and continue the voyage which was interrupted for a fortnight when rebels seized their ship.

A spokesman for the owners said the Santa Maria would resume its sail within three days after taking fuel and water, and would probably begin her next cruise from Lisbon on March 1.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of Zuckerman and Chayot on the passing away of

ARIEH ZUCKERMAN

on Friday, February 3, 1961.

Kahn & Co. Ltd., Jerusalem
Dr. Eng. L. Ottolenghi, Dr. Eng. A. Kahn
Managers of S.L.P.I. — Milano

League Keeps Views On Palestine Secret

THE ARAB LEAGUE Foreign Ministers concluded their five-day parley in Baghdad on Saturday night but did not disclose their five decisions concerning "Palestine."

The conference heard the Secretary-General of the League report on "Palestine" and closed with a meeting in Shurah, in the Lebanon, last August as well as the "dangerous situation" which would result from Israel's diversion of the Jordan River.

The Jordan press yesterday generally expressed the opinion that the decisions adopted in Baghdad would never be carried out.

The weekly "Haw el Alam" said editorials in the Arab press "will remain silent on paper as long as Nasser and his gang continue to subvert the neighbouring Arab countries and attempt to force their will upon them."

The daily "Falastin" pointed out that the Baghdad decision was to approve the formation of the League and that Israel should act in accordance with the principles of the past which were never really implemented. The paper asked: "Why must we wait for a Baghdad conference in order to proclaim the Arab war to provide Aligned with monetary aid?" Did anyone prevent them from doing so during the past six years of the Arab war?"

Yesterday, after a meeting of the Jordan Cabinet, Amman Radio said the Arab war to provide Aligned with monetary aid?" Did anyone prevent them from doing so during the past six years of the Arab war?"

The conference also decided that Arab members having diplomatic relations with Cyprus would pay attention to Israel diplomatic activity there and report to the League Secretariat.

They also prepared a "united plan" with which to combat the "infiltration" of Africa, and decided to review the matter at the League's session in Cairo at the end of March.

Nine member states, over Tunisia's objections, resolved to battle against Mauritania's admission into the UN. They backed Morocco, which claims that the former French territory given independence late last year is an integral part of Moroccan territory.

The UAR Foreign Minister, Mahmoud Fawzi, said at a press conference that his country's relations with Iraq, Jordan and Tunisia had improved as a result of the diplomatic parley.

The Moroccan delegate accepted a decision to back the nomination of Mongi Slim, head of the Tunisian delegation to the UN, as President of the 18th U.N. General Assembly session.

(Baghdad, Reuter, AP)

Syria Bans Deals In Foreign Currency

DAMASCUS (AP) — The UAR Government yesterday enforced a controlled currency system in the Syrian Republic.

The Ministry of Economy has banned all deals or transactions in foreign currency, whether in banknotes or cheques, into or out of Syria. It also banned anyone leaving Syria from carrying more than \$L100.

Cairo Radio last night attempted to minimize the severity of the new regulations, declaring they would eliminate the activities of "current smugglers and illegal dealers." It claimed Syria's foreign currency assets could now be used "for development and for the masses."

It will be recalled that Amman Radio last week reported the resignation of the Syrian Central Bank Governor Amjad Tashk in protest against Egyptian efforts to dominate Syrian currency affairs as well as to transfer Syrian gold reserves to Cairo.

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(Reuter, AP)

Bonn Opposes UK Rocket Project

VILSECK, West Germany (AP) — Defense Minister Franz Josef Strauss yesterday agreed to speak only French, and Government supporters here said this fitted into the international pattern of the attacks on the Portuguese Government which began with the seizure of the liner Santa Maria.

The Minister added, however, that in principle Germany has agreed to cooperate in a European space programme with Britain and France.

The Blue Streak project should not be included, he said, because Bonn opposes spending millions just to duplicate research and pioneering already undertaken by Britain.

The storm was blamed for nearly 100 deaths, by unofficial estimate.

Entire communities, including some major cities, were virtually immobilized under snow as high as 30 inches. By mid-day Saturday the disruption of travel and vital services was nearly complete as the storm swept northward from the Carolinas, Virginia and West Virginia, through Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and southern and central New England.

Entire communities lost power and telephone service, principally because overhead lines could not stand the strain of the heavy snow and high winds.

(Reuters, AP)

BRITISH FLU TOLL 1,453 IN JANUARY

LONDON (Reuters) — The worst influenza wave to hit Britain in seven years is now reported to be subsiding in intensity, after claiming 1,453 lives in England and Wales in January.

For several weeks now transport and other public services have been disrupted as sneezing, coughing and aching workers took to their beds.

In the first three weeks of the year, 1,026 persons died compared with the 1,000 deaths at the peak month of the Asian flu epidemic three years ago. Deaths in the last week of January totalled 161.

Moscow Keeps World Guessing On New Sputnik

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Mr. Nikolai Kachan, a member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, declared yesterday that, with the launching of the new 6-ton Soviet Sputnik, "the boldest expectations have been surpassed."

His statement was broadcast to the world still awaiting word from Russia where living creatures were aboard the heaviest-ever

Observatories are apart as Tokyo and Bonn, West Germany, said they had not received any signals from the Sputnik.

Prof. John Sharp, a language professor at Texas Western College who is a radio enthusiast, said at El Paso, Texas, that when he picked up radio signals from the Sputnik on Saturday night, he heard a rhythmic musical tone, more like a man breathing than any sound else, and a faster measured sound like a man's pulse.

Official Soviet news sources remained silent on the Sputnik's progress. Not one word has been published officially since Saturday night's original announcement.

In England Prof. Bernard Lovell, Director of Britain's radio telescope at Jodrell Bank, said that the absence of published details from Russia about the new spaceship might be because it was intended to be a "tiny giant."

Mr. Lovell's statement came at the conclusion of a discussion on his proposal to call the Executive for Thursday.

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Taste of Taste
E & Distinction

Fluchs
Städter

Social & Personal

The President and Mrs. Ben-Zvi yesterday received members of the Jewish National Third Pilgrimage from Western Canada.

M. Jean Claude Poulain, Honorary Treasurer of the Twin Cities Association, was yesterday received by Tel Aviv Mayor N. Namir.

Mrs. Clara Davies Brown, General Secretary of the Lions Club, N.Y., visited the Wizo Baby Home and Children's Centre in Jerusalem on Friday.

A group of 15 British journalists arrived as guests of B.A.C. Ltd. to attend the augural flight of the B.A.C. Rolls Royce 707 and are staying at the Dan Hotel.

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De Gaulle Would Set Up U.S. Presidential System in France

By MAURICE CARR, Jerusalem Post Correspondent

PARIS.—M. Guy Mollet is being tipped as President de Gaulle's choice for the post — yet to be created — of Vice-President of the French Republic.

Speculation on the subject, which was well founded though official confirmation is not available because it is here in political circles and in the press after Gen. de Gaulle had a confidential conversation with M. Mollet lasting 90 minutes — one of the longest tête-à-tête audiences the President has ever granted.

It is known that Gen. de Gaulle has for some months now been contemplating a constitutional reform which would make the Fifth Republic rather resemble the Presidential regime of the U.S. In particular, Gen. de Gaulle wishes the election of the President in the future to be by direct universal suffrage instead of through intermediary "notables" as at present. That however, is a long-range pre-occupation since five-year terms run for five-year terms.

The situation has become grave since Abd al-Nasser visited Morocco. Jewish children and adults have been arrested by the police, for no good reason and have been tortured and told, "You'll hear of Eichmann." Well, we're going to do better," one student related.

At the start of the broadcast, the students identified themselves giving their full names and other particulars. One of them, however, frankly admitted he was "wondering" whether he would ever return to Morocco. He revealed that 1,200 Moroccan Jews who wish to emigrate to countries other than Israel have been denied passports.

From a reliable traveller just returned from Morocco, your correspondent learns that the Government's antisemitism has seeped down into the masses, creating an ugly situation.

Kennedy Chooses Space Administrator

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Kennedy on Monday chose Mr. James Webb, a socialist leader, as Vice-President would be wholly in keeping with Gen. de Gaulle's progressive outlook.

Meanwhile, the very idea has been sending shudders down the spines of the representatives of high finance and conservative string-pullers here who are keen to see the anti-Gaulist Antoine Pinay succeed Gen. de Gaulle.

Strasbourg Synagogue Offices Sacked

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

PARIS.—The offices of the synagogue in Strasbourg were raided on Friday night and everything in them — from furniture to documents — was destroyed in an apparent

mad frenzy.

ON THE AIR

FIRST PROGRAMME 522, 1064, 249, 229 M.

News: Hebrew 8.00, 9.00 and 10.00 p.m.; English 8.00, 9.00 and 10.00 p.m.

English 1.30 p.m. French 2.15 p.m.

6.00 a.m. Religious Service (R.)

6.00 a.m. Musical Clock 6.30 Exercises

6.45 Musical Clock 6.55 Announcements 7.15 Morning Prayer

7.15 Love Letters 8.00 Stars of Confidence—Hebrew 10.15 Stars of Songs 10.30 Pursuit

8.00 a.m. Special Programmes for Tourists presented by Y. Lee 5.00 Announcements 5.00 Torah Lesson 5.25 Israeli Tunes 5.30 Young Concert 6.00 Daily News Service for the Armed Forces 6.00 Regasmim Agricultural Bag 6.30 Yehoshua Leader Series for Piano & Winds 6.45 The Lantin Programme 7.15 Love Letters 8.00 Stars of Confidence—Hebrew 10.15 Stars of Songs 10.30 Pursuit

Voice of America 8.00 English Programme

5.45 a.m. 8.15 Tactics—66 Commandos 8.30 News 8.45 Chorus 6.00 News 6.15 Report of 1.30 News 7.15 Magazine 7.30 News Review of Significant Subject 7.45 News 8.00 Report to Europe 8.15 News Analysis Regional Features 9.00 Report to Africa 9.15 Feature Interview with Senator Kayra Nyassaland Student news in US

8.00 p.m. Report to South Asia News: Regional Feature 11.15 Music 1.30 News 2.00 News 2.15 News 2.30 News 2.45 News 2.55 Programs 2.58 News 2.58 Requests 9.30 "Carry On" 10.10 Russian Songs 12.30 Hebrew New Songs 12.45 Laundromat Music 1.15 Masses to Immigrants 1.30 Hebrew to Go 2.30 Close Down

Second Programme 8.00 12.30 29.7 M.

Local News 8.00 News 8.00 Weather Forecast 6.00 News 8.15 Colours 7.00 London 8.00 News 8.15 News 8.30 News in English 8.45 Yiddish 8.50 News in English 8.55 Polish 8.50 Close Down

Arabic Programme 4.00 8.17 M.

(including News) 6.30-7.15 a.m. 11.15-12.30 a.m. 1.30-2.15 a.m.

KOIL YISRAEL LAGOLA (2.3 M.)

Programme to the U.S. 10.15 News 10.30 Newsreel 10.35 Israeli Stars of Songs 10.45 News 10.55 Stars of Songs 11.10 Close Down

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Arabic Programme

An Israeli in Burma (I)

MOSHAV ON EDGE OF THE JUNGLE

NAMSANG is over 800 miles from Rangoon, and here — near the mountain jungle — we are helping the Burmans set up a settlement scheme resembling an Israeli moshav or olim. We are a team of four agricultural instructors, employees of the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department, and we have brought our families with us.

The houses we live in are of jungle bamboo. Among them stands the schoolhouse for our 12 children, and a shack in which five "classes" are taught by a single teacher, the wife of one of the team members.

This small Israel community lives side by side with a group formed of members of different units of the regular Army who, after eight or ten years service, have expressed the wish to become farmers in modern villages on a cooperative basis. Three such villages have been planned for this district, each to be inhabited by 40 families. Each farmer is to have a house, 60 dunams of land, a pair of oxen, a cart and implements. Two of the villages are already in existence.

The soldiers-settlers come from generations of farmers, some of whom have been in Israel and received agricultural training in kibbutzim and moshavim. We converse with them in Hebrew and English.

Rice Planting

The weather is wonderful. The rain that is supposed to fall abundantly in the monsoon season has this time been considerably delayed, and we are beginning to wonder if we have not brought some dry Israel weather with us along with our know-how. Still the crops have risen and spirits are high.

The planting of rice has begun. This afternoon we went to the paddy with all the children to watch the work. It was quite an experience. The field is terraced into level beds each with 30-40 cm. of water standing on it. The water is supplied by a fine system of ditches, supplemented by bamboo pipes conveying water from terrace to terrace. In primitive fashion, irrigation is done by hand, the water being carried in a light-hearted way.

A few days ago, I was invited to the housewarming of Mah Win, one of the settlers of No. 1. village, who had been in Israel. The dedication of a new house is an essentially religious occasion. Monks are invited and entertained along with numerous other guests, and they are the masters of the house.

The Burmese, methods cost the Burmans a great deal of money. The work is done in a light-hearted way. A house is built so firmly that it has to be replaced by another very soon. The reason is the cheapness of the material — wood or bamboo — and the almost infinitesimal cost of labour. The overseer of the group is permitted to employ 10 to 12 labourers daily; he will not let them nominate on labour since what he does not use will simply be wasted. Bamboo structures rot within five or six years and a roof made of bamboo strips has to be replaced about every two years — a bamboo one, but nevertheless bamboo roofs are almost universal.

Moreover, bamboo increases the risk of fire, and very often whole settlements are burnt to the ground. The weaker presents no disaster to the people, it is to protect the inhabitants. The Burman adores with coloured paper and fresh flowers in bowls, and the faithful kneel in morning and evening.

When I entered the room I saw a large, olive-wood emblem of the State of Israel underneath the Buddha indicating that Mah Win attached religious significance to his stay in Israel. Can an Israeli feel more nobly about his country? It was obvious that Mah Win's gesture was deeply sincere — no mere diplomatic courtesy.

From the emblem, the conversation turned to the Hebrew script, which is square, while the Burman script is all made up of dots and parts of circles. And just to show what a small world it is, it appeared that the emblem had been given to Mah Win by Kibbutz Nir Elyahu, after he had been there two weeks on training. Did he know kibbutz members Ben Zion and Bina? The Burman became quite excited when I identified myself as Bina's brother.

The Burman Way
By now we think that we understand the Burman mentality. Every day we hold a joint meeting with all the officers, instructors and village representatives and try to devise a work programme that is simple, easily grasped by everyone and adapted to the needs of the development of the villages and their lands. But quite frequently,

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